

Serving The Public: Day At The Blind School Pictured



RHYTHM CLASS FOR YOUNGEST STUDENTS—The first primary class at the Oregon School for the Blind plays its rhythm instruments while Mrs. Howard Miller (at right rear) plays piano accompaniment.



BRaille PROVIDES "READING EYES" FOR JIMMY—A student identified as Jimmy demonstrates how he can read a dictionary printed in Braille. The seven volumes on the library table at the Blind School are required to print in Braille all the words in the small pocket dictionary on the front edge of the table. (All Capital Journal Photos)

Youths 'See' With Hands, Learn Slowly

By FRED ZIMMERMAN
Capital Journal Writer

A great transformation is taking place on the 8-acre campus of the Oregon State School for the Blind. And when it is completed late this year, all of the old frame structures will have disappeared, being replaced by modern structure of concrete and brick.

In spite of the necessity of moving some departments into temporary location, resulting in some congestion, school activities are continuing on an efficient basis under the direction of Everett E. Wilcox, superintendent.

TERM SAID MISNOMER

Incidentally, Supt. Wilcox says the terminology "blind school" is a misnomer, since many of the 80 pupils enrolled have a fair degree of sight. They move from building to building and from one class to another without too much difficulty.

Removal of the large two and a half story frame building, conspicuous on the tree-studded campus by virtue of its white paint, was the first task in the current reconstruction program. It had long been a fire hazard. Its destruction meant a shift of administrative offices to the music wing of the principle school building.

On the site of the old building is being erected a one-story fire proof structure that will house the kitchen and the dining rooms. This structure will form the southern side of what will ultimately develop into a small quadrangle.

NEW BUILDINGS

Facing Church street will be a new administration building, while on the north will be constructed an infirmary, currently housed in the boys' dormitory. Construction of the infirmary will follow the raising of the last frame building of the plant. It is currently housing the kitchen, dining rooms and a small gymnasium on the top floor.

OUTINGS RECOMMENDED

Charles Woodcock, school principal, says these outings tend to reduce the tensions of the children and make it easier for them to associate with others.

Souvenirs of these camping trips, including heavier cuttings from the Silver Creek area and shells from the coast, are included in the exhibits on display in the school's museum, located on the top floor of the class room building.

"You notice, there are no 'hands off' signs in the museum remarked Principal Woodcock. Blind children absorb much knowledge by feeling objects with their hands.

in the usual public school. In fact, one of the aims of the School for the Blind, said Supt. Wilcox, is to prepare the pupils for public school education as rapidly as possible.

Some of the children with impaired vision make the transition faster than others, but on an average about 25 boys and girls are able to return to their home schools each year. Others remain on the campus from the first through the ninth grades.

The school does not conduct graduation ceremonies. However, it is apparent that this has not always been the case since a number of "diplomas" came to light during an investigation of a number of accumulated records.

There is no provision for the teaching of vocational subjects at the Salem school, since it is devoted entirely to academic classes. It has a small science department while a music division is maintained.

During a recent tour of the plant, a group of some 12 or 15 boys and girls were found rehearsing choral numbers which they were to present during a meeting of the West Salem Lions Club. The group included a number of excellent voices and showed evidence of sound training.

PUPILS ENCOURAGED

The administration encourages the pupils to mix with the general public and several of them attend concerts and other public functions.

While the total of 47 regular employees and nine part time workers might seem out of line considering the number of pupils, it should be pointed out that the very nature of the enterprise means much personal supervision and attention is necessary.

As to the history of the school, it was first opened in February, 1873 with an enrollment of seven and a daily per capita cost of \$1.94. With the exception of the period from Jan. 1, 1879 to Dec. 31, 1882, when operations were suspended, the institution has operated continuously.

The peak enrollment came during the 1938-1940 biennium when an average of 96 pupils were in school during the year. The per capita daily cost at that time was \$1.31. Since then, the cost has advanced at a rate comparable to virtually all other enterprises. It was \$6.219 during the 1954-56 biennium.

The Legislature appropriated \$418,518 for operation of the school during the 1955-57 biennium. Of this amount \$301,818 was earmarked for salaries; \$22,530, other personal services; \$89,290 for materials and services, and \$4,880 capital outlays.



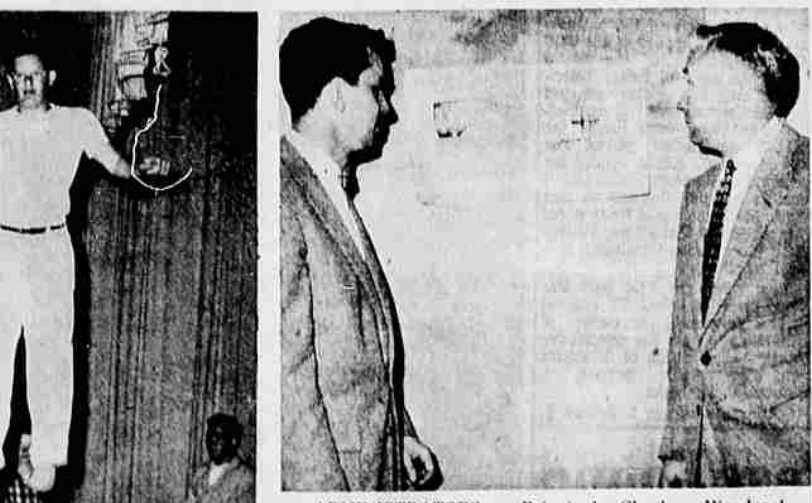
PHYSICAL EDUCATION—One of the older students demonstrates a croquet in a physical education class at the Blind School. A new croquet is being constructed and classes now are held on the stage of the administration building.



NEW EXHIBIT—Miss Iva May Speed (left), teacher, brings her class into the Blind School museum to inspect a new display about Africa. A student by her checks a native spear and two boys at right feel the mounted head of an antelope. The museum, with its stuffed animals, is a popular place for the boys and girls.



TYPING SKILL, PRACTICED—Miss Effie Westensee (standing in background) is instructor in typing class for older students at the State Blind School in Salem. It is another way that blind students learn to adjust to their handicap.



ADMINISTRATORS—Principal Charles Woodcock (left) and Supt. Everett Wilcox study an architect's sketch of the administration building as it will look at the State School for the Blind.

Japan Needs A-Power—Tokyo (AP)—Japan will need a million kilowatts from nuclear energy sources within 10 years, a member of Japan's Atomic Energy Commission said Monday. Ichiro Ishikawa made the statement at the opening session of a three-day conference on power of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Cole Advocates Giving A-Arms To Neutralists

TOKYO (UP)—Rep. Sterling Cole said today the United States should offer guided missiles to neutralist countries such as India, Burma and Indonesia.

The New York Republican, a member of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy, is in Japan attending a Far Eastern atomic conference.

Cole said during an interview that the United States is already pledged to defend the free world from acts of aggression, and that pledge includes the use of nuclear weapons.

"If any allied country, or neutralist country such as India, Burma, or Indonesia should ask for guided missiles with atomic warheads for defense purposes, we should give such defense weapons to them," he said.

He added that many countries do not now have the trained personnel to operate such highly technical weapons, but he said the United States should make it clear that it is committed to the defense of the free world... and that includes use of "all weapons."

Cole said the two countries in the Far East who have the technical skill to operate such weapons at the moment would be India and Japan.

Fresh Water From Ocean Not Imminent

WASHINGTON (AP)—A House committee reported Monday that despite some "optimistic" statements, large scale conversion of ocean water into fresh water isn't just around the corner.

Former Mrs. Carradine and Artist, 19, Wed

SAN MATEO, Calif. (AP)—Sonia Henius Carradine Bowen, 35, back in San Mateo Monday with her new 19-year-old husband, says from now on her acting career would come second to "being a woman."

"I'm much more interested in what Michael does," she said, referring to Michael, Francis Bowen, the new husband.

Bowen, a San Francisco artist, added that "we love each other very much."

They were married Saturday at Reno by Justice of the Peace William Benner after Bowen got a license by producing an affidavit of consent signed by his father. He denied a report that early this week he was refused a license because he didn't have the written permission.

The new Mrs. Bowen was divorced in Reno last week from Hollywood actor John Carradine, 50. The divorce ended a turbulent marriage marked by divorce suits and counter-suits and custody battles over three sons, ages 3, 7 and 10.

She and Bowen said they met at Hollywood last October.

Push P. I. Drive

MANILA (AP)—Supporters of the late President Ramon Magsaysay who broke last week with his successor, President Carlos P. Garcia Monday launched a nationwide campaign to win the Philippine presidential election next November.

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7 Pounds of Heroin Found On Ship Deck

SAN PEDRO, Calif. (AP)—Customs agents on a routine search said they found nearly seven pounds of raw heroin in a deck load of lumber on the Norwegian freighter Anna Bakke.

Inspector L. E. Brown said the heroin, wrapped in 15 water-proof packets, was found within a pile of 20-by-10 inch timbers Saturday.

Brown said the heroin, when cut several times, might be worth as much as \$500,000 in the illicit retail trade.

The 10,500-ton ship, skippered by Capt. Severin Simonsen, has been in the West Coast-Hong Kong trade for some time. It arrived from Hong Kong Friday via Vancouver, B.C., Seattle and Portland.

Brown said the lumber was loaded at Vancouver and was destined for Australia on the return voyage to the Orient.

There were no arrests here.

CAPITOL

PLAYING TONITE

JOHN WAYNE ANNA LEE
FLYING TIGERS

2nd JOHN WAYNE HIT

JOHN WAYNE HAYWARD
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DENNIS O'KEEFE
THE VINTAGE

2nd HIT

GRAND

TONITE-50c ANYTIME

JOHN HOPKINS BOGART
MURRAY CLOSE
WILLIAM HOLDEN
Sabrina

ALSO FOR ACTION

VICTOR JANET MATURE LEIGH
SAFARI

JOHN JUSTIN ROLAND CLARK

Chessman Puts Final Appeal Before Court

WASHINGTON (AP)—Caryl Chessman's nine-year fight to escape the San Quentin gas chamber goes before the Supreme Court for probably its last time today.

Chessman, whose books on life in a prison death cell helped to finance his many appeals, has said he will give up the battle if he loses this time.

The Supreme Court agreed to hear two hours of argument on whether there was fraud in the preparation of the official record of Chessman's 1948 trial.

He was convicted and sentenced then on charges of kidnapping and attempted rape in a lovers' lane in Los Angeles.

George T. Davis, San Francisco attorney for Chessman, contends the transcript is "prejudicially incomplete and inadequate."

The trial court reporter died before he had transcribed all his notes. The job was finished by Stanley Frasier, a relative by marriage of the deputy district attorney who prosecuted Chessman.

"Missing from the record, or garbled in the transcript of it," says Davis, "were sections in which it should have affirmatively appeared that Chessman was convicted in violation of fundamental constitutional rights."

William M. Bennett, deputy attorney general of California, said in a reply brief that Chessman was entitled to no assistance from the Supreme Court.

"This litigant has been furnished hearings and reviews thus far without end," Bennett's brief said. "The hand of justice has been stayed time and again, if only to review questions already adjudicated or theories newly contrived."

Girl at End of 21-Day Fast

FORT OGLETHORPE, Ga. (AP)—Evelyn Jenkins, a pretty 16-year-old, ended 21 days of fasting "for the glory of God" Sunday night.

The girl said she has taken only occasional drinks of fruit juices and water since April 22. She said she will drink fruit juice every four hours at first.

She dropped out of the 10th Grade at Kirkman Vocational High School in Chattanooga when she started the fast. Since then she has spent most of her time between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. in the woods near her home reading the Bible and praying.

She said she believes her weight has not dropped much below 120. She weighed 130 when she began her fast.

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